

Winnebago County

Where the Funds Come From

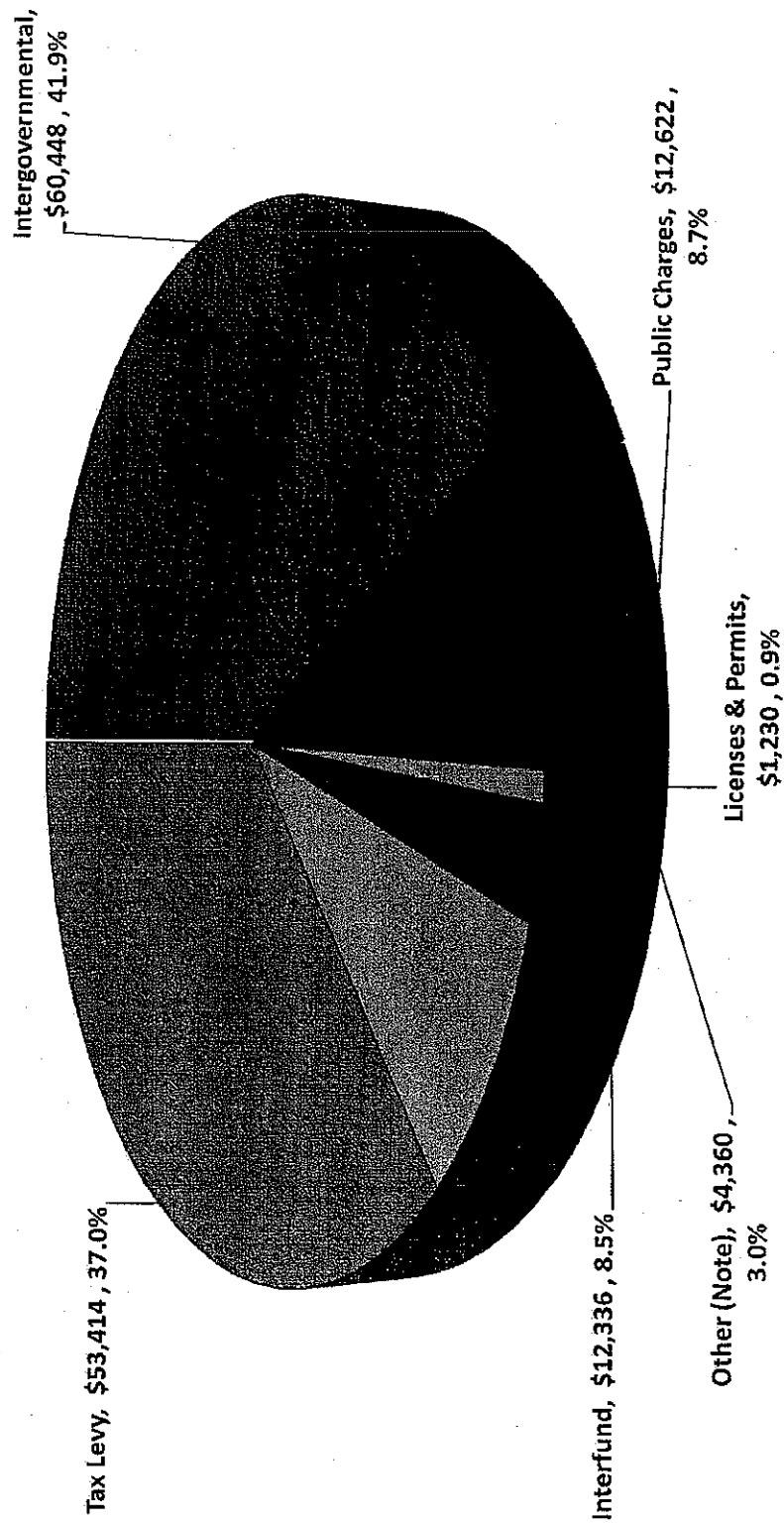
	2005		2010
Intergovernmental	\$ 60,448	\$	61,306
Public Charges	\$ 12,622	\$	14,237
Licenses & Permits	\$ 1,230	\$	1,091
Other (Note)	\$ 4,360	\$	4,404
Interfund	\$ 12,336	\$	16,327
Tax Levy	\$ 53,414	\$	67,791
	<u>\$ 144,410</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>165,156</u>

Note: "Other" category consists of other taxes, interest on investments, and other miscellaneous revenues such as rental, nonoperating grants, and sale of property & equipment.

Winnebago County Wisconsin

Where the Funds Come From - 2005

(Dollars in thousands)

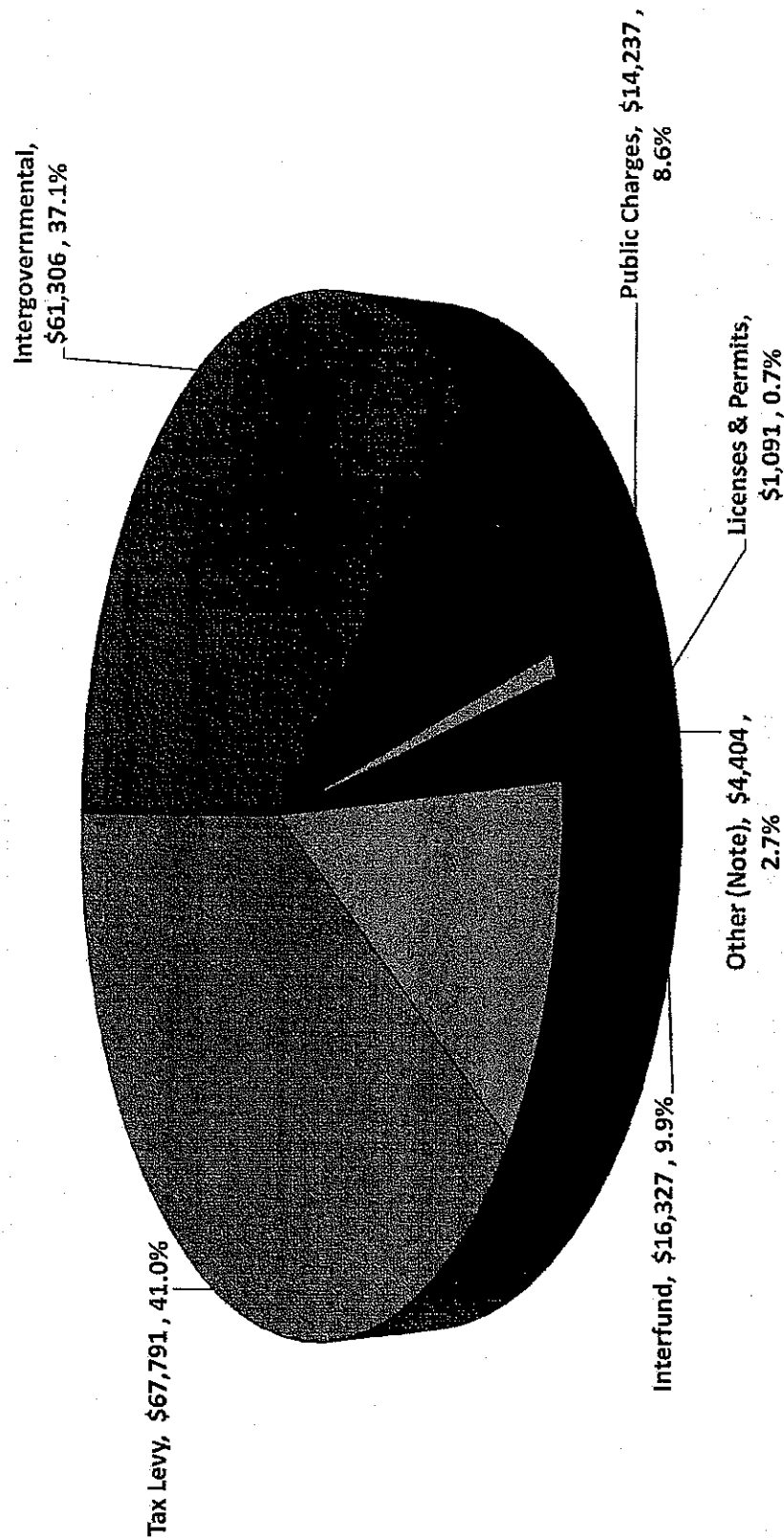


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Winnebago County Wisconsin

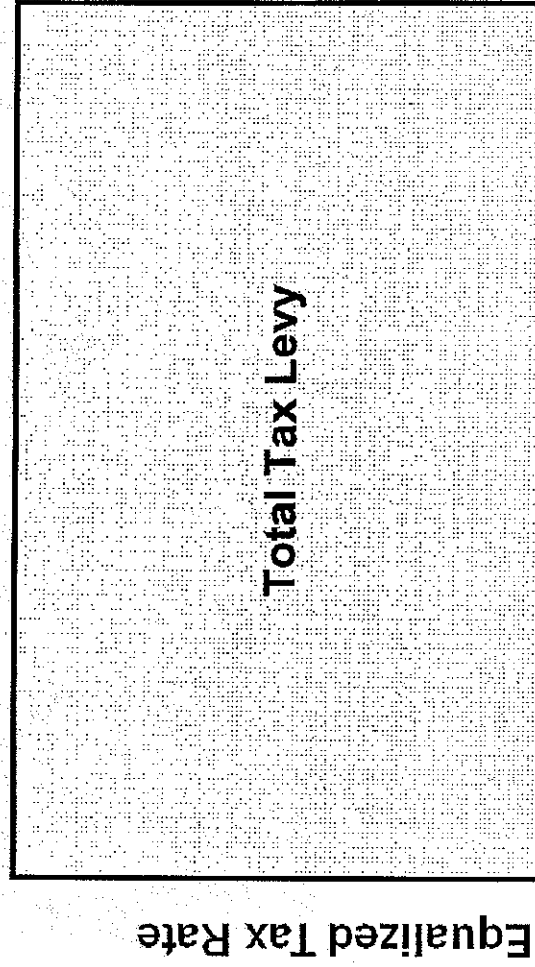
Where the Funds Come From - 2010

(Dollars in thousands)



Note: "Other" category consists of other taxes, interest on investments, and other miscellaneous revenues such as rental, nonoperating grants, and sale of property & equipment.

The total County tax levy is a function of the equalized rate and the equalized value in thousands. The equalized value for most property is the market value.



Public Hearing before Committee on Urban and Local Affairs March 23, 2010

Assembly Bill 788 Sunset provision for county operating rate limit

Summary of comments by Winnebago County Executive Mark Harris

Counties are subject several budget restraints imposed by the state.

- Continuation of effort in Law Enforcement

- Limits on ability to reduce funding to libraries

- Requirement to leave savings from Family Care with Human Services

- Mediation arbitration rules limit ability to control wages and benefits

- Declining portion of county budgets coming from intergovernmental transfers (42% in 2005 decreased to 37% in 2010)

- Shifting responsibility from the State to the County for mental health placements and other Services

Winnebago County is very thrifty

- Average total annual spending has increased only 1.5% per year over the last five years

- Winnebago County has operated within the levy freeze each year- using less than the allowed amount in recent years

- Winnebago County has never adopted a sales tax

The operating rate limit will force tax cuts and service cuts at a time when the demand for social services, income support and law enforcement are growing rapidly. Declines in the market value of property will result in lower taxes even if assessments are unchanged.

2011 budgets are based on 2009 market values. Federal Housing Finance Data suggests significant declines in 2009 Wisconsin home prices. Money magazine predicts continued

declines for all Wisconsin cities for 2010. Commercial real-estate may be the next sector to decline.

The levy freeze holds counties to the greater of new construction or a floor amount (usually two or three percent). The floor amount recognizes the cost to continue government even when there is little new construction. The rate limit holds counties to a total levy equal to the equalized value of the tax base in thousands times the equalized operating rate in effect in 1992. Note that each county has their own rate limit with thrifty counties locked into low rates and other counties locked into higher rates. The operation of the rate limit will prevent Winnebago County from benefiting from the floor amount provided under the levy freeze.